United Nations A/ES-10/520–S/2011/331

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
31 May 2011

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 31 May 2011 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

At a time when the international community is fully and responsibly focused on promoting an environment conducive to the achievement of a peaceful settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and seeks serious and coordinated action to salvage the prospects for realizing the two-State solution on the basis of the pre-1967 borders, Israel, the occupying Power, in word and in deed is demonstrating its deliberate intent to ensure the failure of these efforts as it continues to recklessly defy the rule of law and the position and will of the international community and to choose continued occupation and conflict over peace. Israel's illegal actions and intransigence continue to deny and obstruct peace, freedom, justice and security for the Palestinian people and continue to inflame tensions on the ground in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to stoke sensitivities throughout the region and beyond.

Before recalling the most recent violations of international law by the occupying Power, we wish to stress the position of the Palestinian leadership in welcoming some of the positions publicly declared by United States President Barack Obama in the major policy statement he delivered regarding the Middle East, on 19 May 2011, including his affirmation of the two-State solution based on the 1967 borders, and that negotiations should begin with the issues of borders and security. The Palestinian leadership welcomes his position that all final status issues, particularly the crucial issues of Jerusalem and the Palestine refugees, will also be on the agenda of negotiations, as they are issues of central importance to the Palestinian people and were determined to be core final status issues at the outset of the peace process and throughout for the past two decades.

Further, in connection with President Obama's speech, the Palestinian leadership has underscored the necessity for the Security Council and the Quartet to establish an effective mechanism and specific timetable, not to exceed September 2011, in order to implement the parameters set out by President Obama and all other political

Please recycle

terms of reference that are based on international legitimacy in order to launch a serious political process towards the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement.

While many world leaders welcomed the articulation by President Obama of this important position, in particular his affirmation that the borders of an independent, sovereign and contiguous State of Palestine and Israel should be based on 1967 lines, it is highly regrettable that Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu responded with his usual tone of blatant defiance and arrogance, making provocative and irresponsible statements amounting to the destruction of the two-State solution and the prospects for it to serve as the foundation for a future of peace, justice and security between the Palestinian and Israeli peoples. The provocative statements made in his speech before the joint session of the United States Congress on Tuesday, 24 May 2011, have only further raised tension, further exposed the Israeli Government's true ill intentions and further called into question its credibility as a peace partner. Indeed, the Prime Minister's statements throughout this recent period offered not a single concrete possibility for restarting a genuine peace process. Moreover, the facts on the ground and the illegal Israeli policies, particularly Israel's insidious and unlawful settlement colonization campaign that has continued in tandem with the verbal provocations and incitement, are totally poisoning the atmosphere and undermining the efforts to resume peace negotiations.

Over the past 14 days, the Israeli Government has approved thousands of new illegal settlement units in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. On 19 May 2011, the occupying Power announced its intentions to build up to 1,500 settlement units in the so-called settlements of Har Homa and Pisgat Zeev in Occupied East Jerusalem. This was followed on Wednesday, 26 May 2011, a day after the Prime Minister's provocative statement that "Jerusalem will never be divided", by a ceremony to mark the completion of the second phase of another 60 settlement units in Ras al-Amud, in the heart of a highly populated and bustling Arab neighbourhood at the foot of the Mount of Olives in Occupied East Jerusalem. This most recent scheme is part and parcel of the occupying Power's attempt, along with its ring of other illegal settlements in the Palestinian neighbourhoods such as Silwan, Issawiya, Al-Tur and Sheikh Jarrah, to illegally, deliberately and artificially sever East Jerusalem from the rest of the Palestinian Territory and destroy that Territory's contiguity and viability.

At the same time, the occupying Power has continued to pursue home demolitions and evictions of Palestinian families, particularly in Occupied East Jerusalem. We express our appreciation in this regard to the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mrs. Valerie Amos, who recently called on Israel to end its forced evictions of Palestinians from their homes in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

We reiterate that East Jerusalem is an integral part of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, it remains occupied, and that, in the context of the two-State solution for peace, on which there is a clear international consensus based on international law, United Nations resolutions, the Arab Peace Initiative and the Quartet road map, it is to be the capital of the State of Palestine. We also reiterate that all Israeli settlements are illegal under international law and as such must neither be permitted to prejudge the outcome of final status negotiations nor should they enjoy any legitimacy from the international community. It must be made clear to Israel, once and for all, that

the creation of so-called facts on the ground will never make legal or legitimate what is illegal under international law and what is considered a war crime under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

Israel also continues its repressive, brutal campaign of violence, intimidation and harassment of the Palestinian people under its nearly 44-year military occupation. The illegal settlers, who continue to rampage throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory with impunity, are a central part of this force of repression. In the current period, the occupying forces have allowed more settler violence and destruction to be perpetrated and have continued to use excessive force and violence against peaceful Palestinian protesters, particularly those protesting the settlements and the Wall, and to carry out military raids and arrest campaigns on a daily basis. This has included the arrest of a 74-year-old woman in the village of Arura, north of Ramallah, after occupying forces raided her home.

The incitement spewed this week by Prime Minister Netanyahu, along with Israel's escalating settlement campaign in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem and all other provocations as mentioned above require the serious attention of the international community. The continuation of this situation will only cause further deterioration of conditions on the ground, exacerbate heightened tensions, and destroy all international and regional efforts to revive the peace process in any form. We thus call on the international community, the United Nations, in particular the Security Council, to assume its full responsibilities and to act urgently, in accordance with international law and relevant United Nations resolutions, to put an end to these illegal Israeli policies and intentional provocations, in order to salvage the hopes that may still exist to advance peace and security for all the people in the region.

This letter is in follow-up to our previous 392 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 16 May 2011 (A/ES-10/519-S/2011/308), constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

United Nations S/2011/332

Security Council

Distr.: General
31 May 2011

Original: English

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations operation in Cyprus

I. Introduction

1. The present report on the United Nations operation in Cyprus covers developments from 21 November 2010 to 20 May 2011 and brings up to date, since the issuance of my previous report (S/2010/605), on 26 November 2010, the record of activities carried out by the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) pursuant to Security Council resolution 186 (1964) and subsequent Council resolutions, most recently resolution 1953 (2010). The activities of my mission of good offices in Cyprus were covered most recently in my report dated 4 March 2011 (S/2011/112).

2. As at 30 April, the strength of the military component stood at 858 for all ranks and the strength of the police component stood at 65 (see annex).

II. Activities of the Force

3. UNFICYP aims first and foremost to prevent a recurrence of fighting and to contribute to the maintenance of law and order and a return to normal conditions. Its mandate requires reconciling, as far as possible, security considerations and the maintenance of the military status quo while allowing Cypriots, who live and work in the buffer zone, to pursue civilian activities and enjoy full and productive lives. When successful, such an approach builds confidence between the communities and contributes to the overall United Nations effort in support of the peace process.

A. Prevention of a recurrence of fighting and the maintenance of the military status quo

4. During the reporting period, UNFICYP continued to maintain the integrity and stability of the buffer zone. There was a further decrease in the number of military violations committed by the National Guard and the Turkish forces in comparison with the previous reporting period. Cooperation from both opposing forces and the working relationship with the respective chains of command was positive.

5. There was no progress in advancing the consideration of military confidence-building measures. While the National Guard has worked with UNFICYP on

11-35433 (E) 310511

Please recycle

assessing the proposals, as I have previously reported, UNFICYP still awaits concrete steps from the Turkish forces/Turkish Cypriot security forces. The mission remains committed to reducing tension and the military presence in the buffer zone through the implementation of such measures as the unmanning and/or closing of observation posts where opposing troops are in close proximity. Progress in this direction, however, requires support from both sides.

6. The opposing forces did not carry out any major exercises during the reporting period. Routine exercises associated with the annual rotation of troops continued. The opposing forces occasionally employed low-level measures that provoked a reaction from the other side. These occurred mostly in areas around Nicosia, where the opposing forces are in close proximity to each other, and were predominantly related to poor discipline. Since 30 April, the Turkish forces have used spotlights to illuminate areas surrounding five observation posts in the buffer zone around the Kokkina/Erenköy pocket. On each occasion and to the extent possible, UNFICYP intervened to ensure that such incidents did not escalate. Both opposing forces continued to report alleged violations committed by the other side to UNFICYP; the number of such allegations decreased in comparison with previous reporting periods.

7. Previously reported military positions established by both opposing forces in the Dherinia area that violate the status quo remain in place. The Turkish forces retained the checkpoint in the Laroujina pocket; they also conducted regular inspections of the liaison post at Strovilia and repeatedly overmanned the position in violation of the military status quo. The United Nations holds the Government of Turkey responsible for the status quo in Varosha.

B. Demining activity in the buffer zone

8. On 4 December, the Mine Action Centre in Cypress was called upon to rescue a Greek Cypriot firefighting team, which had inadvertently entered a mined area in the north and set off an anti-tank mine while fighting a fire in the western part of the buffer zone. The Mine Action Centre, supported by UNFICYP, successfully extracted the persons and vehicles without harm or injury.

9. The Mine Action Centre completed the clearance of the three remaining mined areas that had been released to UNFICYP. However, the sides continue to withhold access to the four remaining mined areas in the buffer zone, namely, one located south of Varosha under the control of the Turkish forces and three in the Laroujina pocket under the control of the National Guard. At the same time, no agreement was reached with the Turkish forces or the National Guard to extend demining operations to areas outside the buffer zone.

10. Under these circumstances, demining in Cyprus ceased in January 2011. My Special Representative subsequently wrote to the representatives of the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leaders reiterating the position of the Security Council, which looked forward to the clearance of the remaining minefields and urged the parties to agree to extend the operation beyond the buffer zone (see resolution 1953 (2010)). However, the parties have made no progress to date in releasing the remaining minefields for clearance.

C. Restoration of normal conditions and humanitarian functions

11. Civilian activities in the buffer zone, including housing construction, farming, animal husbandry and other commercial ventures, increased during the reporting period. Since these activities require permits from UNFICYP, the mission intensified its outreach activities in villages all along the buffer zone to explain procedures and process applications for the benefit of both communities. UNFICYP routinely facilitates the provision of basic services and the maintenance of essential infrastructure in the buffer zone, such as roads, waterways and electricity supply, thereby enabling greater access to agricultural land. During the reporting period, UNFICYP authorized 24 civilian projects and activities out of 27 applications received.

12. The increase in civilian activities was accompanied by an increase in incidents caused by civilians, including passive resistance and belligerence; contesting, and often disregarding, UNFICYP procedures for authorizing civilian construction projects by both private individuals and companies, at times supported by local authorities; repeated blocking of patrol tracks; and disregard of UNFICYP requests to vacate the buffer zone. Three judicial cases resulting from such incidents in the south involving Greek Cypriots have yet to be heard by the courts.

13. Beyond the buffer zone, an important aspect of the mission's mandate is to address day-to-day issues arising from the division of the island for Greek Cypriots and Maronites residing in the north and Turkish Cypriots residing in the south. During the reporting period, UNFICYP facilitated 13 religious and commemorative events, involving some 3,630 individuals, which were either held in or required crossing of the buffer zone. UNFICYP also assisted in addressing legal and humanitarian concerns resulting from arrests and detentions of Turkish Cypriots in the south and Greek Cypriots in the north. UNFICYP visited five Turkish Cypriots imprisoned in the south, attended their court hearings and facilitated visits by family members. One Greek Cypriot arrested in the north was also visited in detention. However, contrary to long-established practice, the Turkish Cypriot authorities prevented UNFICYP from attending the related court hearing.

14. UNFICYP continued to deliver weekly humanitarian assistance to 356 Greek Cypriots and 126 Maronites in the north and to facilitate solutions for their medical and health-care needs. It also continued to assist Turkish Cypriots living in the south by liaising with local authorities in their efforts to provide welfare services, including medical care and education. In Limassol and Paphos, it continued to work with the local authorities and community representatives to strengthen support mechanisms for vulnerable members of the Turkish Cypriot community in educational and social areas.

15. With respect to educational issues, the elementary and secondary Greek Cypriot schools in the Karpas peninsula continued to function, assisted by UNFICYP through the delivery of school textbooks and the appointment of teachers, while the Turkish Cypriot side continued to raise the lack of a Turkish language primary school in Limassol as a cause for concern. During the previous reporting period, eight Maronites and one Greek Cypriot asked UNFICYP to convey their request to reside permanently in the north. These requests remain under consideration by the Turkish Cypriot authorities.

16. Certain incidents contributed to rising tensions between the two communities and required UNFICYP intervention and mediation. On 21 December 2010, a European club basketball match in south Nicosia between a visiting Turkish team and a Greek Cypriot team was marred by acts of hooliganism by Greek Cypriot fans against the Turkish team players. Cyprus police intervened decisively at the stadium and provided protection to the team until its departure. Following Turkish Cypriot representations on behalf of the Turkish team, UNFICYP engaged in mediation at the operational and political levels to defuse the situation. The incident was subsequently condemned by both sides.

17. On 25 December 2010, Turkish Cypriot police interrupted a Christmas service for the Greek Cypriot residents in the Karpas peninsula. On 17 March, Turkish Cypriot authorities confiscated 204 religious books, which the Greek Cypriot side had sought to transport to the north. In both instances, UNFICYP made representations to the Turkish Cypriot authorities, who defended their actions on the basis that, in each case, the long-standing authorization procedures had not been followed. In March, the Turkish Cypriot authorities revised existing procedures for Greek Cypriots to obtain permission for religious observances at places of worship in the north. While the new procedures appear to address some of the concerns of the Greek Cypriot community, some administrative control over observances remains.

18. UNFICYP continued to support initiatives, in particular at the level of civil society, that foster bicommunal cooperation, a key component of the reconciliation process. To that end, the mission facilitated more than 100 bicommunal events, with the participation of more than 6,300 people, in cooperation with international and local partners. The events, including regular meetings between Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot political party leaders and representatives under the auspices of the Embassy of Slovakia, were held at the Ledra Palace Hotel and other locations in the buffer zone.

19. In addition, UNFICYP supported a variety of bicommunal projects by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and its local partners by allowing access to and the use of certain sensitive areas of the buffer zone. Two UNDP-supported projects are of particular note. In the old town of Nicosia, UNFICYP supported a European Union-funded project led by the two Nicosia municipalities on the stabilization of buildings at the Ledra Street/Lokmaçı crossing. UNFICYP also supported the launch on 6 May of the Home for Cooperation, a new facility established between the Ledra Palace Hotel crossing points, with the aim of facilitating bicommunal cooperation on issues of education and research. The launching ceremony was attended by Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leaders, Demetris Christofias and Derviş Eroğlu.

20. UNFICYP maintained efforts to build confidence between the two communities in Pyla, the only mixed village in the buffer zone. With a view to improving the long-standing arrangements in the village, UNFICYP facilitated regular meetings to enable local community representatives to air issues of concern and find agreed solutions. On 10 April, the Turkish Cypriot village of Louroujina and the Greek Cypriot community of Athienou held a family event in the buffer zone, with UNFICYP support. UNFICYP will continue to explore further such initiatives on the ground.

21. UNFICYP police assisted in and facilitated a number of investigations by the respective police services. During the reporting period, there were 16 reported cases of theft or attempted theft, 1 case of threatening and indecent behaviour towards UNFICYP personnel, 5 cases of criminal damage or vandalism, 1 case of arson, 1 case of assault and 1 case of passing fraudulent cheques in the buffer zone. In March, UNFICYP police and military components helped to defuse tension in the village of Pyla and supported the transfer to Larnaca by Cyprus police of a group of Palestinian refugees, who had staged a protest against alleged unfair treatment regarding welfare issues.

22. UNFICYP continued to maintain and foster good working relationships with the police services on both sides. Daily communication helps to further enhance cooperation and to address operational difficulties within the buffer zone. In accordance with the leaders' agreement upon the opening of the Limnitis/Yeşilırmak crossing in October 2010, the United Nations police continued to escort convoys with Turkish Cypriot civilians and humanitarian supplies through the buffer zone to Kokkina/Erenköy.

23. The joint communications room, where UNFICYP has a permanent presence, complements the existing liaison system. Both sides demonstrated a willingness to cooperate and assist each other by exchanging information in response to requests, covering a broad spectrum of such crime-related issues as suspected abduction, details of apprehended persons, illegal drugs and stolen property.

24. The Technical Committee on Crime and Criminal Matters continued to meet on a regular basis under the facilitation of the United Nations police. In April, the Committee organized a joint seminar in cooperation with UNFICYP on the use of illegal drugs, which was attended by students and teachers from both communities. Facilitated by UNFICYP, the Technical Committee on Cultural Heritage and its advisory board continued to plan for the preservation, protection and restoration of immovable cultural heritage throughout the island. As a result of an €800,000 project funded by the European Union and implemented by UNDP, important steps towards developing an island-wide cultural heritage inventory were taken.

25. UNFICYP facilitated four meetings of the Committee on Crossings as well as several site visits carried out separately by the respective teams to different locations in the buffer zone where further crossings could be opened. As evidenced by the extensive research and consultations, both sides demonstrated constructive engagement and goodwill at the meetings. As a result, all parties are positively disposed to a crossing south of Apliki/Aplıç in the Lefka/Lefke area. The Greek Cypriot side also seeks a crossing to the east and south-east of Nicosia, linking the capital to Larnaca by means of the old road.

26. During the period from 21 November 2010 to 7 May 2011, UNFICYP recorded more than 778,000 official crossings through the buffer zone, including almost 40,000 at Limnitis/Yeşilırmak. During the period between November 2010 and May 2011, goods worth approximately €742,581 crossed from the south to the north, and goods worth approximately €3,106,577 crossed in the opposite direction, which is similar to the levels reported for the same period in 2010.

27. Restrictions imposed upon United Nations staff members of Greek Cypriot origin seeking to undertake their duties in the north, noted in previous reports, continued.

III. Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus

28. During the reporting period, the Committee on Missing Persons continued to carry forward its bicommunal project on the exhumation, identification and return of remains of missing persons. By May 2011, the remains of nearly 800 individuals had been exhumed on both sides of the island by the Committee's bicommunal teams of archaeologists. The remains of 463 missing persons had undergone examination at the Committee's bicommunal anthropological laboratory in the United Nations Protected Area in Nicosia. Following the genetic analysis of 1,280 samples by a bicommunal team of scientists at the Cyprus Institute of Neurology and Genetics, the remains of 278 individuals have been returned to their respective families to date, including 15 during the reporting period. During the reporting period, the Committee's access to military areas in the north remained circumscribed.

IV. Financial and administrative aspects

29. As indicated in my previous report, the General Assembly, by its resolution 64/274, appropriated the amount of $56.3 million for the maintenance of UNFICYP for the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011, inclusive of the voluntary contribution of one third of the net cost of the Force, equivalent to $18.9 million, from the Government of Cyprus, and the voluntary contribution of $6.5 million from the Government of Greece. I invite other countries and organizations to do likewise, with a view to reducing the portion of the cost of UNFICYP covered by assessed contributions.

30. My proposed budget for the maintenance of UNFICYP for the period from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012 (A/65/706), which amounts to $55.7 million, is being considered by the General Assembly at the second part of its resumed sixty-fifth session.

31. Should the Security Council decide to extend the mandate of UNFICYP for a further period of six months, the cost of maintaining the Force would be limited to the amount approved by the General Assembly.

32. As at 30 April 2011, the total outstanding assessed contributions to the special account for UNFICYP for the period from 16 June 1993 to 30 April 2011 amounted to $17.9 million. The total outstanding assessed contributions for all peacekeeping operations as at the same date amounted to $1,780.3 million.

33. Reimbursement of troop- and contingent-owned equipment costs has been made for the periods up to 28 February 2011 and 30 June 2010, respectively, in accordance with the quarterly payment schedule.

V. Observations

34. During the reporting period, the situation in the buffer zone remained calm. I am pleased to report that the overall number of military violations decreased further. I hope that the opposing forces, which have demonstrated overall good cooperation with UNFICYP, will respond positively to the mission's ongoing efforts to advance

discussions on military confidence-building measures, which would also contribute to the ongoing peace process.

35. Regrettably, restrictions on the movement of locally employed United Nations civilian personnel continue. The freedom of movement of all United Nations personnel is a matter of principle to the Organization and an operational requirement for UNFICYP, and I call upon the Turkish Cypriot authorities to respect this principle.

36. UNFICYP increasingly faces challenges by individuals, at times supported by the respective authorities; these challenges have led to incidents, potentially undermining the security situation and creating wider tensions between the communities. Such challenges to the authority of UNFICYP in the buffer zone undermine the mission's ability to assist in the return to normal conditions. Civilian activities in the buffer zone are a key component of the reconciliation process when managed in a manner that fosters trust and cooperation. I call on the respective authorities to provide their fullest support to ensure respect for UNFICYP in implementing its mandate.

37. Both communities continued to rely on UNFICYP assistance in areas ranging from humanitarian, religious, social and economic matters to a variety of bicommunal issues affecting the everyday lives of Cypriots. UNFICYP continued to work closely with the two communities on solving practical day-to-day issues. However, a number of incidents during the reporting period contributed to rising tensions that required intervention and mediation by UNFICYP. I call on all parties to encourage, in their words and actions, an atmosphere of restraint and mutual respect.

38. UNFICYP has been instrumental in facilitating cooperation between the sides and the implementation of measures in the fields of crime and criminal matters and cultural heritage. With regard to crime and criminal matters, I welcome the exchange of information between the sides as a significant contribution towards producing tangible results for the common security of all Cypriots. In the area of cultural heritage, it is important that all parties demonstrate their commitment to preserving the rich common heritage of Cyprus by supporting and facilitating the implementation of agreed measures.

39. I remain of the view that the establishment of economic, social, cultural, sporting or similar ties and contacts will have a positive impact on the ongoing negotiations. Such contacts nurture a sentiment of trust between the communities and help to address the concerns of isolation expressed by the Turkish Cypriots. Furthermore, greater economic and social parity between the sides will make the eventual reunification not only easier but also more likely. In the context of an internationally sanctioned peace process, efforts in the opposite direction can only be counterproductive.

40. I am pleased to report that the humanitarian work of the Committee on Missing Persons continues largely unhindered. I appeal to all parties to continue efforts to prevent the work of the Committee from being politicized. I once again continue to urge all parties to be more forthcoming in accommodating the Committee's exhumation requirements throughout the island, including in military areas in the north.

41. Since its inception in 2004 and thanks to predominantly European Union funding, the demining operation in the buffer zone has cleared 73 mined areas, or almost 11 square kilometres of land for productive use, and has destroyed more than 27,000 mines. I commend the efforts of all involved in this painstaking and hazardous work. At the same time, I am disappointed that the stated goal of a mine-free buffer zone cannot be achieved. The recent incident described in paragraph 8 underscores the continuing dangers posed by the mines in Cyprus, including in areas beyond the buffer zone. I call upon the parties to facilitate the removal of these enduring threats to safety. The United Nations stands ready to further assist the parties in their aspiration to achieve a mine-free Cyprus.

42. I am encouraged by the positive engagement of the parties with regard to future crossings. As we saw at Limnitis/Yeşilırmak in 2010 and Ledra Street/Lokmaçı, Nicosia, in 2008, such initiatives can improve overall confidence between the communities. I call on the parties to take a pragmatic and results-oriented approach, with a view to enabling further social and economic interaction between the two communities. It is now time to decide on opening the next crossing.

43. It is my firm belief that UNFICYP continues to play an important role on the island in maintaining calm and fostering bicommunal cooperation and trust. The mission also works closely with the Office of my Special Adviser and the United Nations agencies and programmes, which are actively engaged in promoting an atmosphere that is conducive to negotiations. I therefore recommend that the Security Council extend the mandate of UNFICYP for six months, until 15 December 2011.

44. In line with the requests of the Security Council, most recently in its resolution 1930 (2010), the Secretariat will remain engaged in contingency planning in relation to the settlement. The planning will continue in a flexible manner and will be guided by developments in the negotiations and the views of the parties on the possible role of the United Nations in this respect.

45. At the same time, mindful of the Security Council's previous calls and my stated intention to keep all peacekeeping operations under review, I shall continually keep the operations of UNFICYP under close review, taking into account developments on the ground and the views of the parties, and shall revert to the Council with recommendations, as appropriate, for further adjustments to the UNFICYP mandate, force levels and concept of operations as soon as warranted. As I informed the Council in my report dated 4 March 2011 (S/2011/112), preliminary internal discussions have begun with regard to my stated intention to conduct a broader assessment of the United Nations presence in Cyprus, with a view to recommending ways to further adjust to ongoing developments.

46. In conclusion, I would like to express my gratitude to my Special Representative and Chief of Mission, Lisa M. Buttenheim, and to Rear Admiral Mario César Sánchez Debernardi, the Force Commander of UNFICYP, who left the mission in December 2010. I also extend my appreciation to Major General Chao Liu, who assumed the position of Force Commander in February 2011, and to the men and women serving in UNFICYP for the efficiency and commitment with which they have discharged the responsibilities entrusted to them by the Security Council.

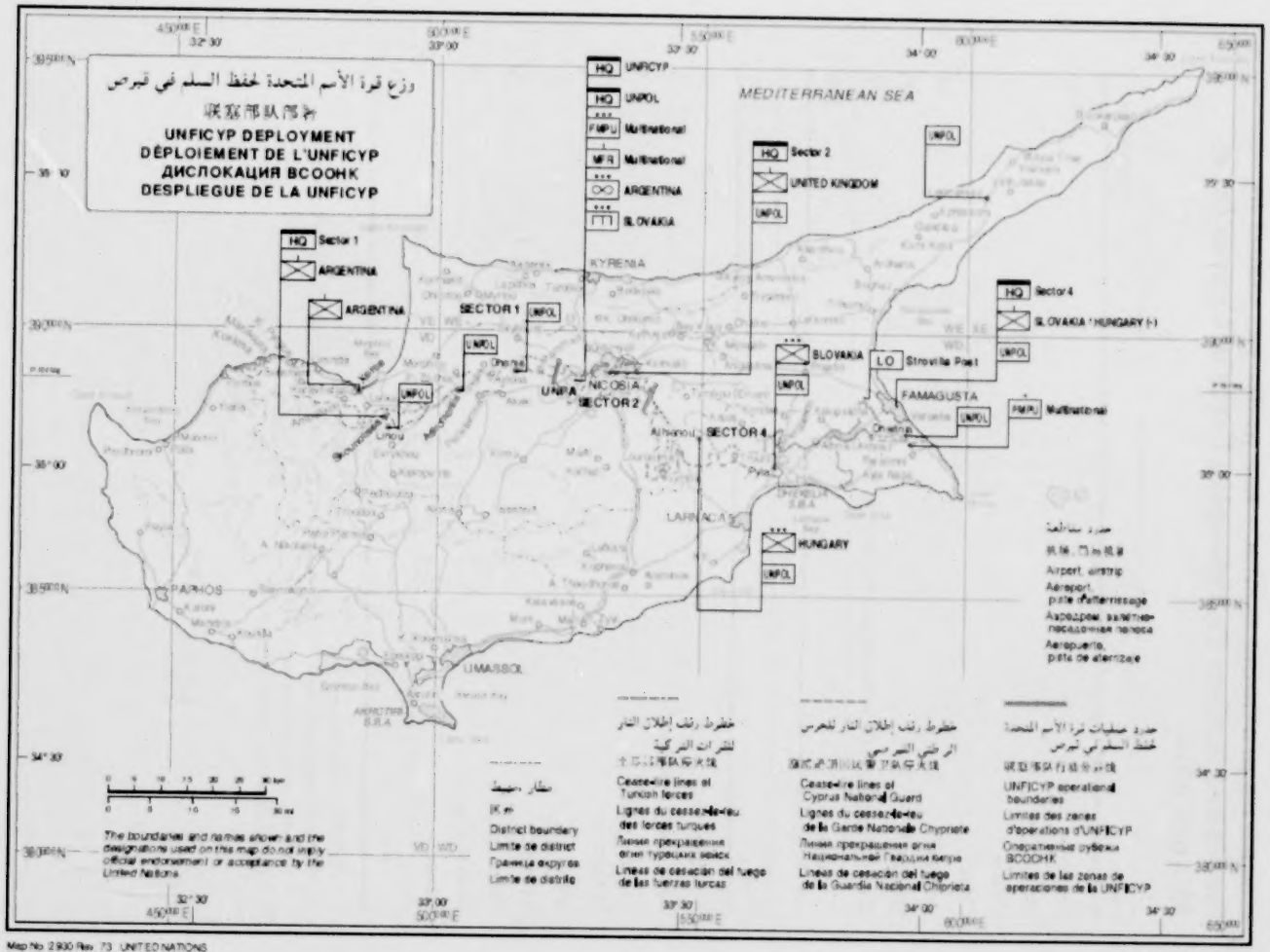
Annex

Countries providing military and police personnel to the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (as at 30 April 2011)

Country	*Military personnel*
Argentina[a]	295
Austria	4
Canada	1
China[b]	2
Hungary[c]	84
Slovakia[d]	200
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	272
Total	**858**

Country	*United Nations police*
Australia	15
Bosnia and Herzegovina	5
Croatia	4
El Salvador	4
India	7
Ireland	18
Italy	4
Montenegro	4
Ukraine	4
Total	**65**

[a] Includes soldiers from Chile (15), Paraguay (14) and Brazil (1).
[b] China is using one vacant Canadian and one British post at UNFICYP headquarters.
[c] Includes soldiers from Serbia (6).
[d] Includes soldiers from Croatia (2).



Map No. 2930 Rev. 73 UNITED NATIONS
May 2011

Department of Field Support
Cartographic Section

United Nations S/2011/333

Security Council

Distr.: General
31 May 2011
English
Original: French

Letter dated 31 May 2011 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the attached letter, dated 27 May 2011, from His Excellency Mr. Ali Ahmed Karti, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Sudan, announcing the decision of the Sudanese Government to terminate the presence of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan, as of 9 July 2011 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

11-35982 (E) 010611 010611

Please recycle

Annex

Letter dated 27 May 2011 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Sudan to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]

Allow me at the outset, in my own capacity and on behalf of the Government of the Sudan, to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude for the outstanding work undertaken by the United Nations and the United Nations Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS) in supporting the Government of National Unity in implementing the Comprehensive Peace Agreement by performing the tasks stipulated in the Agreement in conformity with Security Council resolution 1590 (2005) and the agreement between the Government of the Sudan and the United Nations concerning the status of UNMIS.

As you may well be aware, the Government of the Sudan has candidly, and in a transparent manner, worked with all parties to honour its commitments towards the full implementation of this agreement. It is incumbent on me here to recognize the fruitful cooperation that has existed throughout the phases of the implementation. It is evident that the presence of UNMIS was pivotal to the process of the implementation in all fields.

As we are coming to the end of the interim period as stipulated in the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, and with reference to Security Council resolution 1978 (2011), which extended the mandate of UNMIS in the Sudan up to 9 July 2011, I have the honour to convey to Your Excellency the decision of the Government of the Sudan to terminate the presence of UNMIS as of 9 July 2011.

(*Signed*) Ali Ahmed **Karti**
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of the Sudan

United Nations S/2011/334

Security Council

Distr.: General
2 June 2011

Original: English

Letter dated 31 May 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In accordance with the relevant provisions of Security Council resolutions 1970 (2011) and 1973 (2011), and further to the letters addressed to you by the Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, contained in document S/2011/203, I have the honour to notify you that Greece has deployed naval vessels for the provision of assistance and protection for the evacuation of foreign nationals wishing to leave the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and is providing assistance for the purposes of implementing paragraphs 4, 6, 7 and 8 of Council resolution 1973 (2011), in accordance with paragraph 9 of the resolution.

I would be grateful if you could bring this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Anastassis **Mitsialis**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

11-36177 (E) 030611

Please recycle

United Nations S/2011/335

Security Council

Distr.: General
2 June 2011

Original: English

Letter dated 1 June 2011 from the Chargée d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter dated 1 June 2011 from His Excellency Ahmad bin Abdullah Al-Mahmoud, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar addressed to you, transmitting a copy of the Statement by the Joint Mediation regarding the All Darfur Stakeholders Conference (ADSC) (see annex), held in Doha from 27 to 31 May 2011. Also attached is an unofficial translation of the letter.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its enclosure transmitted to the members of the Security Council and circulated as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Alya Ahmed S. **Al-Thani**
Ambassador
Chargée d'affaires a.i.

11-36190 (E) 080611 080611

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 1 June 2011 from the Chargée d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]

I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement issued by the Joint Mediation on 31 May 2011, in the Arabic and English languages, regarding the All Darfur Stakeholders Conference, which was held in Doha from 27 to 31 May 2011. The Conference endorsed the Doha document as a basis for concluding a permanent ceasefire, a comprehensive peaceful settlement including all parties, and sustainable peace and stability in Darfur. It also endorsed the formation of a Darfur Implementation Follow-up Committee chaired by the State of Qatar and including other international partners. The Committee will work with the African Union and the United Nations to assist the parties in concluding and implementing a comprehensive peace agreement including all parties.

(*Signed*) Ahmed bin Abdullah **Al-Mahmoud**
Minister of State for Foreign Affairs

Enclosure

Statement by the Mediation

The Mediation
31 May 2011

H.E. Mr. Ahmed Bin Abdullah Al-Mahmoud, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar, and H.E. Mr. Djibril Bassolé, the African Union-United Nations Joint Chief Mediator, issued the following statement:

The Darfur Stakeholders (Internally Displaced Persons, Refugees, Civil Society, the Government of Sudan, the Movements, Elected Officials, Darfuris in the Diaspora, Political leaders) and their international partners held the All Darfur Stakeholders (ADSC) Conference in Doha, from 27-31 May 2011.

The Conference paid tribute to His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar, the Government and the people of Qatar for their support, their generosity and their commitment to finding a durable solution to the Darfur conflict.

The Conference commended the tremendous efforts, commitment and patience exhibited by H.E. Mr. Ahmed Bin Abdullah Al-Mahmoud, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar, and H.E. Mr. Djibril Bassolé, the African Union-United Nations Joint Chief Mediator towards finding a political settlement of the crisis.

The Conference commended the international partners for their long-standing support and commitment to the peace process and encouraged them to continue to sustain their invaluable contribution and support until lasting peace is found for Darfur.

The Conference congratulated the negotiating Parties and the Mediation for the following agreements that have so far been signed in Doha since the beginning of the process:

- The "Goodwill Agreement" signed by the Justice and Equality Movement and the Government of Sudan on 17 February 2009;
- The Framework Agreement signed by the Justice and Equality Movement and the Government of Sudan on 23 February 2010;
- The Framework Agreement signed by the Liberation and Justice Movement and the Government of Sudan on 18 March 2010;
- Ceasefire Agreement signed by the Liberation and Justice Movement and the Government of Sudan on 18 March 2010.

The Conference applauded the involvement of all stakeholders in efforts to achieve durable peace for Darfur, and commended the Mediation for organizing the Doha I and II consultative forums of civil society, IDPs and refugees in November 2009 and July 2010 respectively. These forums and other such meetings gave the Internally Displaced Persons, Refugees, Civil Society, the Diaspora and community Leaders the opportunity to express their views, concerns and positions regarding the Darfur conflict and how to address its root causes and consequences.

The Conference noted the very significant progress and the substantial achievements of the Doha peace process, accomplished through discussions, consultations and direct talks on all the identified issues. These include:

- Compensation and return of IDPs and refugees
- Power-sharing and administrative status of Darfur
- Wealth-sharing
- Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms
- Justice and Reconciliation
- Permanent Ceasefire and Final Security Arrangements
- Mechanism for Internal Dialogue and Consultation and Implementation modalities.

The Conference endorsed the Doha draft document as the basis for reaching a permanent ceasefire, a comprehensive and inclusive peace settlement, and sustainable peace and stability in Darfur. The Conference therefore called on the Government of Sudan and the Armed Movements to make every effort to reach a permanent ceasefire and a comprehensive peace settlement on the basis of this document. The Conference looks forward to the Conference report that summarizes the views of all the stakeholders.

The Conference paid tribute to the State of Qatar and the Joint Mediation for their patience, perseverance and for all the efforts they put forth, which led to the significant achievements of the Doha Process and the development of the document.

The Conference noted that despite the progress made in the negotiations, the security situation in Darfur remains unstable. Given the direct humanitarian consequences of this situation, the Conference called upon the Doha negotiating parties to abide by the ceasefire and cessation of hostilities agreements already signed. The Conference strongly urged all the other armed movements of Darfur and the Government of Sudan to end hostilities and to sign a ceasefire agreement with the Government of Sudan.

The Conference welcomed the readiness of the State of Qatar to host the signing of any agreement between the Government of Sudan and the Darfur armed Movements, based on the outcomes of the Conference.

The Conference endorsed the formation of a Darfur Implementation Follow-Up Committee (IFC) chaired by the State of Qatar to include other international partners. The IFC will work with the African Union and the United Nations to assist the Parties in reaching and implementing an inclusive and comprehensive agreement.

The Conference looks forward to a planned transition to the implementation phase, including an internal process of consultation and dialogue, which should take place in the appropriate enabling environment under the supervision of the African Union and the United Nations.

Doha, 31 May 2011

United Nations S/2011/336

Security Council

Distr.: General
2 June 2011

Original: English

Note verbale dated 1 June 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Jordan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Executive Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, in reference to the note verbale concerning the exemption for authorized humanitarian flights to Libya, has the honour to attach a copy of a request to secure overflight clearance in Libya and permission to land at Benghazi International Airport for a Jordanian aircraft carrying humanitarian aid from Amman to Benghazi (see annex).

11-36183 (E) 030611

Please recycle

Annex to the note verbale dated 1 June 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Jordan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

FROM FAX (00926-4894902)ROYAL JORDANIAN AIRFORCE,AMMAN-JORDAN
TO FAX : 0032654455354+0012129632155+0012128324346
ATT : SHAPE STRATEGIC OPERATION CENTRE
DATE OF REQUEST : 1/6/20113093
REF : OPS /L/1/B/
URGENT
NATIONALITY OF A/C : JORDANIAN
TYPE OF A/C : C-130H
RADIO CALLSIGN : RJZ 347
NAME OF PILOT : NASER
ALL TIMES BELOW ARE UTC,
AIRPORT OF DEPARTURE AND TIME/DATE :
AMMAN AT (0500) ON 5 / 6 / 2011
POINT OF ENTRY AND TIME / DATE :
(LOSUL) AT (0750) ON 5/6 / 2011
(AIRWAYAS) : AND LANDING AIRPORT :
AS DIRECTED AND APPROVED BY (A.T.C). TO LAND (BENGHAZI INT.)
AT (0900) ON 5 / 6 / 2011. E.T.D (BENGHAZI INT.) AT (1100) ON 5 / 6 / 2011.
AIRWAYS ON THE WAY BACK/POINT OF EXIT AND TIME / DATE :
AS DIRECTED BY (A.T.C). TO EXIT (LOSUL) AT (1210) ON 5/ 6 / 2011.
ADMINSTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS:
A/C HANDLING AND FUEL (JET A1)
PURPOSE OF FLIGHT :
TO AIR LIFT HUMANITARIAN AID FROM AMMAN /JORDAN
TO BENGHAZI.
KINDLY APPROACH (LIBYAN) AUTHORITIES FOR THIS FLIGHT REQUESTING DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE TO OVER FLY (LIBYA) AND PERMISSION TO LAND AT (BENGHAZI INT.) TO BE VALID FOR (72) HOURS DUE TO ANY POSSIBLE DELAY AND INFORM RJAF AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

BEST REGARDS. (تحياتنا)
(009626-4894902 FAX) فاكس سلاح الجو الملكي
(00962799827364 TEL.)

FOR/ RJAF COMMANDER
COL.
SULEIMAN KHALAFAT

COPY TO:
FORBIGN MINISTRY/PROTOCOL

United Nations S/2011/337

Security Council

Distr.: General
6 June 2011

Original: English

Letter dated 2 June 2011 from the Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Pursuant to Article 54 of the Charter of the United Nations, in my capacity as the Representative of the current Chairman of the African Union, I have the honour to transmit herewith the Declaration on the state of peace and security in Africa and the Decision on the peaceful resolution of the Libyan crisis, which were adopted by the Assembly of the Union, at its extraordinary session held in Addis Ababa, on 25 May 2011 (see annex).

It would be appreciated if the present letter and its annex would be circulated to the members of the Security Council, and issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Téte **António**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

11-36495 (E) 100611

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 2 June 2011 from the Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: English and French]

Declaration on the state of peace and security in Africa

The Assembly of the Union, at its extraordinary session held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 25 May 2011, to review the state of peace and security in Africa, deliberated on the situation obtaining on the continent on the basis of the report of the Chairperson of the Commission [EXT/ASSEMBLY/AU/2 (01 2011)]

The Assembly noted that the present session was taking place in a particular context, marked by profound changes in Tunisia and Egypt, the serious conflict facing Libya, as well as the situations in Somalia, with the imminent end of the transition, and Sudan, with the persistence of the Darfur crisis and the threats that the current tension in Abyei poses to the progress made in the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA).

The Assembly welcomed the progress made in the implementation of the Tripoli Declaration [SP/ASSEMBLY/PS/DECL (I)] and Plan of Action [SP/ASSEMBLY/PS/PLAN(I)]of 31 August 2009. It reaffirmed the relevance of these documents, and stressed the need for all stakeholders to continue to work for their expeditious implementation.

More specifically, the Assembly welcomed the developments in Tunisia and Egypt, and stressed that they provide an opportunity for Member States to renew their commitment to the AU agenda for democracy and governance, to inject additional momentum to efforts being exerted in this regard and to implement socio-economic reforms adapted to each national situation.

The Assembly reiterated the need to assess the status of implementation of the AU instruments relating to democracy, good governance and the rule of law, in order to enhance their effectiveness and to adapt them, if necessary, to changing circumstances in the historical evolution of the African people and the progress made in the achievement of the strategic objectives of the AU. The Assembly looks forward to the recommendations that the Panel of the Wise will submit in this regard, in accordance with the Declaration adopted by the 275th meeting of the PSC [PSC/MIN/BR 2 (CCLXXIV)], held on 26 April 2011.

The Assembly also welcomed the restoration of constitutional order in Guinea and Niger, the self-determination referendum in southern Sudan and the Sudanese Parties' commitment to build two viable States living side-by-side, in peace and good neighborliness, and working together to address common challenges, as well as the end of the post-election crisis in Côte d'Ivoire.

The Assembly urged the Parties to the CPA to spare no effort to overcome the current difficulties in Abyei and successfully conclude the negotiations on the outstanding aspects of the CPA and the post-referendum arrangements, under the auspices of the AU High-Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP) on Sudan. It stressed the need to reinvigorate the search for peace in Darfur, including through the immediate launching of the Darfur political process, under the auspices of the AUHIP.

Having hailed the gains made on the ground by the forces of the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) and the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), the Assembly called upon the Somali leaders to overcome the divisions within the Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs) and focus on reconciliation, in order to rise to the expectations of the Somali people. It requested the PSC, in consultation with IGAD and the Somali stakeholders, to meet as quickly as possible to take the necessary decisions on the issue of the end of the transition and post-transition arrangements. The Assembly expressed deep concern at the serious humanitarian situation in Somalia due to the prevailing violence and the current drought, and appealed to all Member States and the international community as a whole, to provide the required assistance to the affected populations.

The Assembly stressed the need for renewed efforts to consolidate peace, wherever it has been restored, and to prevent conflict. In this respect, the Assembly reiterated its call on all Member States concerned to provide the necessary cooperation to the relevant AU organs. The Assembly also underscored the importance of structural prevention of crises and conflicts, both through the implementation of the relevant AU instruments and the acceleration of the socio-economic integration of the continent and promotion of the well-being of its people, including through the development of infrastructures.

In light of the lessons learned from the attempts to marginalize Africa, the Assembly stressed the need to affirm and promote African leadership in managing and resolving the crises affecting the Continent. It urged the AU partners to accept and work towards strengthening this leadership and African ownership, as a condition for the sustainability of progress made in the quest for peace and security on the Continent.

In this context, the Assembly acknowledged the need for continued efforts to strengthen the effectiveness of the initiatives of the continent in the area of peace and security, including ensuring that the AU, through the PSC, promptly seizes itself with the various crises and conflicts facing the Continent and take the necessary decisions.

The Assembly also agreed on the need to mobilize increased resources from within the continent to support the AU Peace and Security Agenda. It requested the Commission to submit, as soon as possible, concrete proposals in this regard. In the meantime, the Assembly urged all African countries to make voluntary contributions to the Peace Fund, while encouraging the Commission to explore additional sources of financing, as envisaged under the sustainability programme of the Year of Peace and Security, as endorsed by the 15th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union, held in Kampala, Uganda, from 25 to 27 July 2010 [Assembly/AU/ Dec 295(XV)].

Finally, the Assembly stressed the need to strengthen collective African action within the AU and the need to maximize the effectiveness and impact of the AU contribution in the UN Security Council, pending the much-needed reform of the Security Council, to ensure that Africa's positions are duly taken into account. In this regard, the Assembly requested the Commission to submit to it proposals on ways and means to better coordinate African positions in the Security Council, and ensure that they further reinforce the decisions taken by the PSC and other relevant organs of the Union.

EXT/ASSEMBLY/AU/DEC/(01.2011)

Decision on the peaceful resolution of the Libyan crisis

1 The Assembly of the Union, at its extraordinary session held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 25 May 2011, to deliberate on the state of peace and security in Africa, reviewed in-depth the situation in Libya, in light of the Report of the Chairperson of the Commission [EXT/ASSEMBLY/AU/2 (01.2011)], as well as the update provided by the African Union (AU) High-Level *Ad hoc* Committee on Libya.

2 The Assembly, having reiterated all earlier communiqués of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) on the situation in Libya, expressed deep concern at the prevailing situation and at its consequences on the civilian population and the long-term stability of Libya, as well as on the countries of the region, in particular those of North Africa and the sahelo-saharan area.

3 The Assembly reiterated its conviction that only a political solution to the current conflict will make it possible to promote sustainable peace in Libya and fulfill the legitimate aspirations of the Libyan people to democracy, rule of law, respect for human rights and good governance, as well as preserve the unity and territorial integrity of Libya. In this respect, the Assembly endorsed the African Union (AU) Roadmap for the Resolution of the Crisis in Libya, as adopted by the PSC, at its 265th meeting held on 10 March 2011 [PSC/PR/COMM.2(CCLXV)], and stressed its continued relevance.

4 The Assembly reiterated the need for an immediate end to all attacks against, and abuses of, civilians, as well as an immediate ceasefire, as demanded by Security Council resolution 1973(2011) and the PSC, to be monitored by a credible, effective and verifiable international mechanism. The Assembly stressed that the ceasefire should lead to the establishment of a consensual and inclusive transitional period during which the necessary reforms to meet the legitimate aspirations of the Libyan people would be carried out, culminating in elections that would enable the Libyans to choose freely their leaders.

5 Pending the establishment of such a ceasefire, and in view of the dire humanitarian situation on the ground, as notably highlighted by the United Nations Under Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Coordinator for Emergency Relief, the Assembly demanded an immediate pause in the fighting and in the NATO-led air campaign, to provide respite to the civilian population, alleviate its suffering and make it possible to deliver the much-needed humanitarian assistance to all those in need of it. In this respect, the Assembly is of the well-considered view that the continuation of the NATO-led military operation defeats the very purpose for which it was authorized in the first place, i.e. the protection of the civilian population, and further complicates any transition to a democratic dispensation in Libya.

6 The Assembly directed the PSC to diligently consider and authorize the immediate deployment of an AU Observer Mission to closely monitor the situation, provide independent

assessment of developments taking place on the ground and facilitate the subsequent establishment of a larger international mission that would involve the United Nations, the League of Arab States, the AU and other organizations. The Assembly called on Member States to provide the personnel, as well as the financial and logistical support required for the early and effective deployment of the envisaged observer mission. It appealed to the Libyan parties to fully cooperate with this mission, and to the AU partners to contribute to its success.

7 While reiterating the commitment of the AU to resolutions 1970(2011) and 1973(2011), the Assembly stressed the obligation of all Member States of the United Nations and the other concerned international actors to fully comply with the letter and spirit of those resolutions. The Assembly expressed deep concern at the dangerous precedence being set by one-sided interpretations of these resolutions, in an attempt to provide a legal authority for military and other actions on the ground that are clearly outside the scope of these resolutions, and at the resulting negative impact on the efforts aimed at building an international order based on legality. The Assembly requested the African Group in New York and the African members of the United Nations Security Council, to take the initiative of the early convening of a meeting of the Security Council, as well as the General Assembly, in order to assess the implementation of resolutions 1970(2011) and 1973(2011)

8 The Assembly expressed Africa's surprise and disappointment at the attempts to marginalize the continent in the management of the Libyan conflict, recalling that the role of the High-Level *ad hoc* Committee is formally recognized by the Security Council in paragraph 2 of resolution 1973 (2011), and falls within the overall context of Chapter VIII of the UN Charter on the role of regional arrangements in the settlement of disputes among and within their member States. The Assembly also recalled that Africa, particularly the countries of the region, are those that bear the greatest impact of the conflict in Libya, both in terms of security and socio-economic consequences.

9 The Assembly stressed that the lasting resolution of the Libyan crisis requires a significant contribution by Africa and close coordination among all stakeholders. In this respect, the Assembly pledged Africa's solemn commitment to work closely with its multilateral partners, in particular the United Nations and the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Libya, in the spirit of operative paragraph 2 of resolution 1973(2011), the League of Arab States, the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) and the European Union (EU), as well as with its bilateral partners.

10 The Assembly reiterated the unique contribution that the *ad hoc* Committee could make to the search for a peaceful solution to the conflict in Libya, in a manner consistent with the objectives of resolutions 1970(2011) and 1973(2011). Accordingly, and having, once again, expressed AU's appreciation for the work done so far by the *ad hoc* Committee, the Assembly requested the Committee to pursue and intensify its efforts, including by undertaking a further visit to Tripoli and Benghazi, to advance the search for a political solution to the conflict, including the speedy establishment of a consensual transitional period, on the basis of the AU Roadmap and proposals that may be submitted by the parties. The Assembly also requested the Committee to dispatch, as early as possible, a delegation at ministerial level to New York, to interact with the Security Council and its members on the AU's efforts and the way forward in Libya.

11. The Assembly welcomed the decision to convene, in Cairo, Egypt, on 30 May 2011, of a meeting that would bring together the AU, the League of Arab States, the OIC, the EU and the United Nations, to work out practical steps for a ceasefire and the launching of a political process that would lead to a lasting solution to the crisis

12. The Assembly expressed grave preoccupation at the fate of the African migrant workers living in Libya and of those trying to depart from the country, noting with sadness the death at sea of several hundreds of people, mostly African citizens, after their boats sank. The Assembly reminded the countries and organizations whose vessels patrol in the Mediterranean Sea of their obligation to provide assistance to all boats leaving Libya. The Assembly further stressed the need to respect the humanitarian principle of *non-refoulement* from Europe's territorial waters and lands for the thousands of people fleeing the war ravaging Libya.

13. The Assembly paid tribute to the neighboring countries of Libya, in particular Algeria, Egypt and Tunisia, for having received hundreds of thousands of civilians, including Africans, fleeing the violence in Libya. The Assembly commended their generosity and hospitality, expressing the hope that the example that they have set will be emulated elsewhere. The Assembly also expressed appreciation to the humanitarian agencies, in particular the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (HCR) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), for their invaluable support and contribution

14. The Assembly, looking forward to the strengthening of the AU role in the process leading to the peaceful resolution of the Libyan crisis, requested the Commission to submit to it a report on the evolution of the situation and progress made in the implementation of the present decision and relevant PSC communiqués at its next ordinary session, in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea.

United Nations S/2011/338

Security Council

Distr.: General
6 June 2011

Original: English

Letter dated 3 June 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 24 May 2011 (S/2011/328) from the Permanent Representative of Cambodia to the President of the Security Council and to inform you of the following:

1. Thailand regrets that the letter presented an incomplete and misleading account of efforts being undertaken within the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to support bilateral relations and negotiations between Thailand and Cambodia.

2. Thailand has been working closely with Indonesia, as the current ASEAN Chair, to implement the understanding reached during the informal ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Jakarta on 22 February 2011. The process initiated by this meeting is progressing well, as demonstrated by the successful convening of the Thai-Cambodian Joint Boundary Commission in Bogor, Indonesia, on 7 and 8 April 2011, and the significant progress made in negotiations on matters relating to the Indonesian Observers.

3. The letter from the Permanent Representative of Cambodia was inconsistent with the will of the ASEAN leaders. The Chair's Statement at the eighteenth ASEAN Summit in Jakarta on 7 and 8 May 2011 states the following:

> "124. We emphasized the underlying norm and principle of ASEAN that differences between ASEAN Member States should be amicably resolved in the spirit of ASEAN solidarity, in accordance with the principles contained in the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia and the ASEAN Charter.
>
> "125. We welcomed Cambodia's and Thailand's commitment to peacefully resolve their differences through political dialogue and negotiations with a view to achieving a mutually acceptable solution through the fullest utilization of their existing bilateral mechanism, with appropriate engagement of Indonesia, current Chair of ASEAN. In this regard, we appreciate that Cambodia and Thailand have agreed on the text of the Terms of Reference on the Indonesian Observers Team in the affected areas following the incidents in February 2011 and encourage the attainment of an environment conducive to their assignment. We also expressed our appreciation and support for the continuing effort of Indonesia, current Chair of ASEAN, to facilitate the

process through its appropriate engagement which would help advance our collective efforts to attain the ASEAN Community."

4. Thailand is firmly committed to continuing to work closely with Indonesia to sustain and build on the positive momentum, especially since the eighteenth ASEAN Summit in Jakarta, namely, the meeting between Thai, Cambodian and Indonesian Foreign Ministers in Jakarta on 9 May 2011, and the agreement between Thai and Cambodian Defence Ministers during their meeting in Jakarta on 18 May 2011.

5. Thailand looks forward to the forthcoming Thai-Cambodian General Border Committee (GBC) meeting to be co-chaired by Thai and Cambodian Defence Ministers and a survey team to be sent by Indonesia in accordance with the latest agreement between Thai and Cambodian Defence Ministers on 18 May 2011. This agreement was made with the full acknowledgement of the Indonesian President, Defence Minister and Foreign Minister. Thailand is now waiting for an invitation from Cambodia, which is scheduled to host the next GBC meeting.

6. Thailand wishes to emphasize that an environment conducive to the full assignment of the Indonesian Observers as envisioned by the ASEAN leaders can be attained only when the Phra Viharn Temple, the "Keo Sikha Khiri Svara" pagoda and the nearby market and community have been demilitarized. It is unacceptable that Cambodia has continued to ignore Thailand's consistent calls for the removal of Cambodian military personnel from these locations, which is essential for the strengthening of mutual confidence and ensuring lasting peace in the area. Thus, the continued insistence of Cambodia on militarizing these locations would not only run counter to the spirit of peace and ASEAN solidarity, but also violate the spirit and purposes of the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and the 1972 Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, as well as the 2000 memorandum of understanding between Thailand and Cambodia on the survey and demarcation of the land boundary. There is no reason why Cambodia cannot take this step if it is serious and sincere about peace. Thailand has always stressed this point with Indonesia throughout the negotiation process concerning the draft Terms of Reference for the Indonesian Observers and appreciates Indonesia's understanding of its vital importance.

7. On 26 May 2011, Thai and Indonesian Foreign Ministers met again in Bali in keeping with their commitment to maintaining close consultations. Both Ministers shared the view that the bilateral process between Thailand and Cambodia, with the appropriate engagement of Indonesia, is moving in a positive direction and all efforts should be made to sustain and build on this positive momentum.

I have the honour to request that the present letter be circulated to all Security Council members for their information and issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Norachit **Sinhaseni**
Ambassador and Permanent Representative
of the Kingdom of Thailand to the United Nations

United Nations S/2011/339

Security Council

Distr.: General
6 June 2011
English
Original: French

Letter dated 2 June 2011 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as President of the Security Council, I am forwarding to you a letter dated 18 May 2011 from the Chairman of the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict established by Security Council resolution 1612 (2005), based on the Working Group's conclusions adopted on 2 May 2011 (S/AC.51/2011/3) (see annex).

(*Signed*) Nelson **Messone**
President of the Security Council

11-36507 (E) 080611 080611

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 2 June 2011 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]

At its 29th meeting, on 25 February 2011, the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict examined the second report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict in Afghanistan (S/2011/55), covering the period from 1 September 2008 to 30 August 2010. At its 30th meeting, on 2 May 2011, the Working Group adopted its conclusions on children and armed conflict in Afghanistan (S/AC.51/2011/3).

In follow up to the recommendations of the Working Group, approved by the Security Council, and subject to and consistent with applicable international law and relevant Security Council resolutions, including Security Council resolutions 1612 (2005) and 1882 (2009), I am entrusted, in my capacity as the Chairman of the Working Group, to request you to strengthen monitoring and reporting of the situation of children in Afghanistan, especially in areas most affected by the conflict, and, in that regard, to continue to strengthen the child protection component of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan through the appointment of child protection advisers in the Mission.

The Working Group also requests you to explore ways to ensure that the United Nations country team works in close consultation with the Government of Afghanistan and international military forces in order to support their efforts to minimize civilian causalities, in line with international humanitarian law.

The Working Group calls upon you, through your Special Representative, to strengthen the exchange of information on the recruitment, training and use of children and to improve the reporting on circumstances where children are trained in order to be recruited and used by the Taliban and other armed groups in Afghanistan.

(*Signed*) Peter **Wittig**
Chairman
Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict

United Nations S/2011/340

Security Council

Distr.: General
6 June 2011
English
Original: French

Letter dated 6 June 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Gabon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a concept paper for the Security Council debate on maintenance of international peace and security: the impact of HIV/AIDS on international peace and security, to be held on 7 June 2011 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nelson **Messone**

11-36432 (E) 060611 060611

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 6 June 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Gabon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]

Impact of HIV/AIDS on international peace and security

AIDS has now taken more than 25 million lives. More than 60 million people have been infected with the virus. Each day, 7,000 people are newly infected with HIV, including 1,000 children. The epidemic continues to disproportionately affect sub-Saharan Africa, where women and children bear the brunt of its devastating effects. The epidemic continues to outpace our response to it.

The meeting of the Security Council in January 2000 on the HIV/AIDS epidemic as a threat to international security drew the world's attention to the need for a massive mobilization in the fight against HIV/AIDS, and served as an important counterpart to parallel efforts on the part of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council to harness the power of the United Nations to address this threat. As the Secretary-General has written in his recent progress report, the massive mobilization of resources in 2001 demonstrated the power of international solidarity, evidence-informed action and political commitment (A/65/797). In the 10 years since the adoption of the 2001 Declaration of Commitment and 11 years since the first meeting on HIV/AIDS, there has been important progress in addressing the AIDS pandemic. Global HIV incidence is declining, access to treatment is expanding, and a global movement has mobilized to demand respect for the dignity and human rights of everyone vulnerable to and affected by HIV. However, stigma, discrimination and gender inequality continue to undermine efforts to achieve universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support.

The Security Council in resolution 1308 (2000) recognized the potential of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, if unchecked, to pose a risk to stability and security. In that resolution it focused particularly on the potential of HIV/AIDS to affect the health of United Nations peacekeeping personnel, including both troops and support personnel. It requested the Secretary-General to take further steps towards the provision of training for peacekeeping personnel, and encouraged Member States to increase international cooperation to assist with HIV/AIDS prevention, voluntary and confidential testing, counselling, and treatment for personnel to be deployed to peacekeeping operations.

In the 11 years since the adoption of resolution 1308 (2000), there has been significant progress and investment in addressing HIV/AIDS among uniformed personnel. Accomplishments include:

- 70 militaries now have HIV/AIDS prevention, counselling and treatment programmes
- 2.9 million troops and family members have been tested for HIV and received counselling
- 81,200 pregnant women used prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission services which included counselling and testing for HIV.

Despite these efforts, statistics of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations have shown that, since 2000, illness has surpassed accidents and malicious acts as the leading cause of death of United Nations peacekeeping personnel (except for 2010, the year of the Haiti earthquake). While the number of HIV/AIDS-related deaths is not precisely known, this trend underlines the urgent need to re-examine the Security Council response to HIV/AIDS in United Nations peace operations. This means continued emphasis on strengthening national HIV policies for uniformed services, training and health measures for all categories of personnel before deployment on United Nations missions, continuing awareness programmes, using a command-centred approach, and education and health programmes for local populations. Research has confirmed that the maximum impact for HIV/AIDS prevention among uniformed personnel comes from implementing effective HIV/AIDS programmes for the entire uniformed population, rather than only those deployed as peacekeepers. While that may not be practicable, a review of the efficacy of steps taken with regard to personnel to be deployed to United Nations missions is clearly needed.

Our knowledge base and understanding of HIV/AIDS in the conflict areas has improved since 2000. For example, HIV/AIDS incidence has been shown to increase in post-conflict situations, with implications for the role that could be played by peacekeeping and peacebuilding missions in strengthening HIV prevention in their areas of operation. We have also developed a greater understanding of the gender dimensions of HIV/AIDS, which disproportionately affect women and girls. The Security Council should thus consider how it could maximize the positive potential of United Nations peacekeeping missions to include HIV/AIDS awareness and training when implementing disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes and in post-conflict justice and security sector reform efforts.

United Nations S/2011/341

Security Council

Distr.: General
6 June 2011

Original: English

Bosnia and Herzegovina, France, Gabon, Germany, Nigeria, Portugal, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: draft resolution

The Security Council,

Deeply concerned that in the 30 years since the beginning of the HIV epidemic, more than 60 million people have been infected, more than 25 million people have died and more than 16 million children have been orphaned by AIDS,

Recalling its meeting of 10 January 2000, on "The situation in Africa: the impact of AIDS on peace and security in Africa" and its subsequent meetings on "HIV/AIDS and international peacekeeping operations", and reaffirming its commitment to the continuing and full implementation, in a complementary manner of all of its relevant resolutions, including SCR 1308 (2000), 1325 (2000),1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), 1894 (2009), 1960 (2010) and all relevant statements of its President,

Reaffirming the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS of 2001 (A/RES/S-26/2), and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS of 2006 (A/RES/60/262) including its commitment towards the goal of universal access to prevention, treatment, care and support which will require renewed efforts at, local, national, regional and international levels,

Recalling the MDG Summit Outcome Document (A/RES/65/1) and the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (A/65/19),

Taking note of the Secretary General's report on the implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS (2001) and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS (2006) (A/65/797),

Recognizing that HIV poses one of the most formidable challenges to the development, progress and stability of societies and requires an exceptional and comprehensive global response, and noting with satisfaction the unprecedented global response of Member States, public and private partnerships, non-governmental organizations and the important roles of civil society, communities, and persons living with and affected by HIV in shaping the response,

Emphasizing the important roles of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in addressing HIV and AIDS, and the continuing need for coordinated efforts of all relevant United Nations entities in line with their respective mandates, to assist, in the global efforts against the epidemic,

Please recycle

Commending the efforts by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) to coordinate and intensify the global, regional, national and local response to HIV and AIDS in all appropriate forums, and the pivotal role of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria in mobilizing and providing international assistance, including resources, to respond to HIV and AIDS,

Recognizing that the spread of HIV can have a uniquely devastating impact on all sectors and levels of society, and that in conflict and post-conflict situations, these impacts may be felt more profoundly,

Further recognizing that conditions of violence and instability in conflict and post-conflict situations can exacerbate the HIV epidemic, inter alia, through large movements of people, widespread uncertainty over conditions, conflict-related sexual violence, and reduced access to medical care,

Recognizing that women and girls are particularly affected by HIV,

Underlining the importance of concerted efforts towards ending conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence, empowering women in an effort to reduce their risk of exposure to HIV, and curbing vertical transmission of HIV from mother to child in conflict and post-conflict situations,

Noting that the protection of civilians by peacekeeping operations, where mandated, can contribute to an integrated response to HIV and AIDS, inter alia, through the prevention of conflict-related sexual violence,

Underlining, the continuing negative impact of HIV on the health and fitness of UN missions personnel, and concerned that available statistics indicate that health-related issues, have become a leading cause of fatality in the field since 2000,

Welcoming the efforts to implement HIV prevention, treatment, care and support, including voluntary and confidential testing and counselling, programmes by many Member States for their uniformed personnel and by the UN for its civilian staff in preparation for deployment to UN missions,

Bearing in mind the Council's primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security,

1. *Underlines* that urgent and coordinated international action continues to be required to curb the impact of the HIV epidemic in conflict and post-conflict situations;

2. *Notes* in this context the need for effective and coordinated action at local, national, regional and international levels to combat the epidemic and to mitigate its impact and the need for a coherent UN response to assist Member States to address this issue;

3. *Notes* that the disproportionate burden of HIV and AIDS on women is one of the persistent obstacles and challenges to gender equality and empowerment of women, and urges Member States, United Nations entities, international financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders, to support the development and strengthening of capacities of national health systems and civil society networks in order to provide sustainable assistance to women living with or affected by HIV in conflict and post-conflict situations;

4. *Recognizes* that UN peacekeeping operations can be important contributors to an integrated response to HIV and AIDS, welcomes the incorporation of HIV awareness in mandated activities and outreach projects for vulnerable communities, and encourages further such actions;

5. *Stresses* the importance of strong support by UN Mission civilian and military leadership for HIV and AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support, as a factor for reducing the stigma and discrimination associated with HIV and AIDS;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider HIV-related needs of people living with, affected by, and vulnerable to HIV, including women and girls, in his activities pertinent to the prevention and resolution of conflict, the maintenance of international peace and security, the prevention and response to sexual violence related to conflict, and post-conflict peacebuilding;

7. *Encourages* the incorporation, as appropriate, of HIV prevention, treatment, care, and support, including voluntary and confidential counselling and testing programmes in the implementation of mandated tasks of peacekeeping operation., including assistance to national institutions, to security sector reform (SSR) and to disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) processes; and the need to ensure the continuation of such prevention, treatment, care and support during and after transitions to other configurations of UN presence;

8. *Underlines* the need to intensify HIV prevention activities within UN missions; *takes note* of the "DPKO/DFS Policy Directive on the Role and Functions of HIV/AIDS Units in United Nations Peacekeeping Operations", and *requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the implementation of HIV and AIDS awareness and prevention programmes for UN missions;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue and strengthen efforts to implement the policy of zero tolerance of sexual exploitation and abuse in UN missions;

10. *Welcomes* and encourages continued cooperation among Member States through their relevant national bodies, for the development and implementation of sustainable HIV and AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support, capacity-building, and programme and policy development for uniformed and civilian personnel to be deployed to UN missions;

11. *Invites* the Secretary-General to provide further information to the Council as appropriate.

United Nations A/65/858–S/2011/342

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
7 June 2011

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-fifth session
Agenda item 34
Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Security Council
Sixty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 6 June 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit the annexed statements of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia regarding the foiled act of terrorism of 2 June 2011 and the Russian Prime Minister's visit to occupied Abkhazia (see annexes I and II).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex would be circulated as a document of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 34, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Alexander **Lomaia**
Permanent Representative

11-36764 (E) 090611

Please recycle

Annex I to the letter dated 6 June 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Statement of the Georgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding the Russian Prime Minister's visit to occupied Abkhazia

On 2 June 2011, the Russian Prime Minister, Vladimir Putin, crossed Georgia's State border and went to occupied Sukhumi in order to attend Sergey Bagapsh's funeral.

During a meeting with representatives of the occupying regime, Mr. Putin is quoted as saying "we will contribute to international contacts with all States, including with the closest neighbours". In Russia's "new reality", Abkhazia has two close neighbours: Russia itself and Georgia.

The Kremlin is insistent in its efforts to create an illusion of legitimacy for the occupying regime it has set up, as well as to establish ethnic cleansing, the military occupation of a sovereign country's territories and the forced re-drawing of borders as an instrument of international relations.

Mr. Putin must, however, be well aware that all these attempts will lead nowhere, and that neither Georgia nor the international community will ever accept any "new reality" based upon the gross violation of the norms and principles of international law and the outcomes of ethnic cleansing.

Tbilisi, 3 June 2011

Annex II to the letter dated 6 June 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Statement of the Georgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding the foiled act of terrorism of 2 June 2011

Another attempted act of terrorism was foiled by the Georgian Ministry of Internal Affairs on 2 June 2011: the Constitutional Security Department seized explosives equivalent to 4 kg of TNT and detained Abesalom Chkhetia and Tamila Benia, residents of the Gali district of the Russian-occupied territory of Abkhazia, Georgia, in connection with the seizure.

According to the testimonies of the two persons detained, they were ordered to carry out an act of terrorism by officers of the Russian Special Forces, named as Igor Vlasov and Sergei Kuzmin, based in occupied Abkhazia.

This plot is a follow-up to a series of acts of terrorism masterminded by Russia on the territory of Georgia.

The Georgian Government has submitted the findings of its investigations into the acts of terrorism which have been committed in Georgia since the autumn of 2010 to the Russian Government, and has offered Russia its cooperation in the process of investigation. Moscow has not, however, responded to date.

Russia continues to pursue its criminal policy against the Georgian State. Georgian law enforcement agencies have provided substantiated evidence which not only proves that Russia and its special services are sponsoring acts of terrorism but also that they are intimately involved in the planning and organization of acts of terrorism on the territories of sovereign States.

The Georgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs urges the international community to demand from Russia that it end its acts of terrorism against Georgia and that it commit itself to the non-use of force and fully comply with all the provisions of the ceasefire agreement of 12 August 2008.

Tbilisi, 3 June 2011

United Nations A/ES-10/521–S/2011/343

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
7 June 2011

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-sixth year

Identical letters dated 6 June 2011 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Yesterday, the Palestinian people solemnly observed the passage of the forty-fourth year since Israel's military occupation of the Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab lands in 1967. It was a day marked with high sensitivities as the Palestinian people under occupation and throughout the Diaspora reflected on the decades of injustice and oppression inflicted by Israel, the occupying Power, on the Palestinian people and its continuing denial and violation of their inalienable human rights and obstruction of the fulfilment of their legitimate national aspirations for freedom, justice, peace, security and dignity in their homeland.

In this connection, it is my profound regret to inform you of the brutal killing and injury by Israel, the occupying Power, of yet more unarmed, defenceless Palestinian civilian protesters. In a repeat of the lethal actions perpetrated on 15 May 2011, the Israeli occupying forces responded to civilian demonstrators in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and the Occupied Syrian Golan with excessive and indiscriminate force that caused dozens of casualties.

In the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Palestinian civilians protesting the Israeli occupation were immediately fired at with tear gas, sound bombs, noxious sprays and rubber bullets as they approached the military checkpoint erected by the occupying Power in the Qalandiya area between Ramallah and Jerusalem. It has been reported that at least 120 civilians were injured by the Israeli occupying forces, including at least nine paramedics who had been attempting to provide aid to the injured protesters. In the Occupied Syrian Golan, hundreds of demonstrators, the majority of them Palestine refugees, were attacked with deadly force by Israel, the occupying Power, leading to even greater casualties than on 15 May. It has been reported that at least 23 Palestinian civilians, all unarmed, peaceful protesters, were brutally killed and dozens more were wounded by the Israeli occupying forces in the confrontation that occurred in the town of Majdal Shams.

Please recycle

The Palestinian leadership condemns Israel's killing of these unarmed civilians attempting to peacefully demonstrate against the brutal and oppressive 44-year Israeli occupation of the Palestinian land and for the realization of their rights and justice. The international community, including the Security Council, must hold Israel, the occupying Power, accountable for the killing and wounding of civilians, so many of whom have been seriously and permanently injured, such as a young Palestinian man, Munib Al-Masri, who was injured in the Israeli attack on protesters last month in Maroun Al-Ras in southern Lebanon and has been tragically rendered disabled for life. Further, Israel must be called upon by the international community to respect the right of civilians to peaceful protest and to cease its use of excessive, indiscriminate and lethal force against them.

In the context of these recent serious developments and in the light of the strong international consensus that prevails regarding the parameters for achieving a final peace settlement in accordance with the two-State solution on the basis of the pre-1967 borders, it is high time that the international community undertake immediate and concrete measures to send the appropriate message to Israel, the occupying Power, that this 44-year, illegitimate military occupation of the Palestinian people and their land must come to a complete end. In this regard, it is worth drawing attention to the fact that there is even strong Israeli support for the two-State solution, as expressed by the thousands who took part in a peace demonstration on Saturday, 4 June, in the city of Tel Aviv, rallying for an end to the occupation and in support of the State of Palestine on the 1967 borders.

Israel must be compelled to abide by all of its obligations under international law and the relevant United Nations resolutions in this regard; the rule of law must apply to all members of the international community without exception. Indeed, it is high time to bring an end to Israel's impunity and its self-proclaimed immunity from the law and to firmly reject and challenge the illogical and empty pretexts repeatedly used by the occupying Power to justify its illegal actions, including in particular its insidious settlement colonization campaign throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. Challenging Israel's unlawful measures and rhetoric in this regard in a way that effects change and adherence to the law will markedly alter the political and physical environment, offering a real opportunity for credible peace negotiations to succeed.

The Palestinian people and their leadership thus reiterate their appeal to the international community to uphold the political, legal and moral responsibilities towards the question of Palestine. Serious and coordinated efforts must be exerted to advance the achievement of a final peace settlement that justly resolves all aspects of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, including ensuring an end to the Israeli occupation and the realization by the Palestinian people of their right to self-determination and freedom in their independent State of Palestine on the basis of the 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital, and ensuring a just and lasting solution to the plight of the Palestine refugees. The international community should not be deterred by Israel's arrogant and spiteful intransigence; on the contrary, it should be more insistent than ever that international law prevail in all circumstances and should no longer tolerate Israel's illegal policies and practices that are rapidly destroying the two-State solution and the chances to achieve peace and security in the Middle East.

This letter is in follow-up to our previous 393 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since

28 September 2000. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 31 May 2011 (A/ES-10/520-S/2011/331) constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

United Nations S/2011/344

Security Council

Distr.: General
8 June 2011

Original: English

Identical letters dated 6 June 2011 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I write in regard to the disturbing and dangerous provocations that were carried out yesterday on the disengagement line between Syria and Israel for the second time in recent weeks, threatening peace and stability in our region.

Yesterday, in a series of coordinated, violent protests in the areas of Majdal Shams and Quneitra, hundreds of individuals sought to breach the disengagement line with Israel. These individuals tried to break through fences in the area, threw Molotov cocktails and other large objects at the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), and used other violent means.

The IDF acted with maximum restraint in confronting the significant threat of violence facing it, but with determination to prevent any breach of the disengagement line. To this end, it took numerous measures, including issuing clear warnings in Arabic over IDF loudspeakers about the serious dangers associated with attempting to breach the disengagement line.

On numerous occasions during this incident, the IDF halted its operations so that members of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) could access the area and treat the wounded. However, instead of cooperating with the ICRC, many of the protestors continued to act violently. They even seized ICRC flags in blatant violation of basic principles and norms of international law.

I wish to stress that the responsibility for any harm caused to the individuals involved in these violent provocations lies clearly with the Government of Syria, which is responsible for preventing the breach of the agreed disengagement line in accordance with its international obligations and Security Council resolutions.

In the days leading up to yesterday's incident, Israel clearly and repeatedly alerted the United Nations, the international community and other parties in the region about the explosive potential of protests planned for 5 June 2011. Following the events of 15 May 2011, we stated unequivocally that Israel would act firmly to prevent any breach of the disengagement line.

Despite these clear warnings, Syria did not prevent demonstrators from arriving at the disengagement line and attempting to cross it. To the contrary, this incident, which could not have taken place without the knowledge of the Syrian

Please recycle

authorities, reflects a blatant attempt by Syria to distract international attention from the violent repression of its own people.

Israel calls on the international community to convey a clear message to Syria that such provocations carry serious potential for escalation and must cease completely. We expect the Government of Syria to take all measures to prevent such dangerous incidents from reoccurring in the future.

Israel is determined to protect its borders and citizens and will continue to take great efforts to maintain regional peace and security, with the hope that its neighbours will act in the same way.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Haim **Waxman**
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.